

**Partners Phone Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 19, 2013**

Kingstad called the meeting to order at 12:03

ROLL CALL

Libraries present: Bitterroot, Darby, Drummond, Fallon County, Flathead, Glendive, Lincoln County, MCPL, Missoula, NVPL, Polson, Plains, Rosebud, WCL

Libraries absent: BLC, Hearst, MCC, Mineral County

CRATES

Kingstad reminded everyone that, not only do you purchase crates when you first join Partners but you should continue to supplement those in order to replace damaged crates. Missoula Public Library will send out purchasing information for the crates as a reminder. Eastern Montana has had regular crate shortages. FCLS will send some crates; WCL will purchase some crates.

LOST MATERIALS

Jones wondered if we need to run separate reports for lost items that are on other libraries' patron accounts. Condrion will double-check reports to make sure that these items are being captured by our reports.

FLOAT MAP by LIBRARY GROUP

This is a new enhancement that allows a more elegant way to float items. Items can now be programmed to float within a smaller group of libraries. This will work great if you would want to float certain items within a smaller geographical area. It is currently setup on the test server with FCLS, MPL, and Bitterroot as the smaller subset. Testing is encouraged.

DISCUSSION OF NOT ALLOWING HOLDS ON NEW ITEMS

It was the consensus of the group that **we do want to place holds on new items**, that is the reason for Partners. Individual libraries have a choice to make—they can join Partners and all items (except those items like reference materials that do not circulate within their own library) are holdable. Or, they can decide that they do not want to be in Partners.

HOW TO ENCOURAGE THE PLACING OF HOLDS

Many customers are reluctant to place a hold, they think it is too much trouble or they believe they are bothering you. Some techniques:

- It's not here right now; I'll give you a call when it comes in.
- The best way to get that item is to place a hold; I'll show you how (or I'll place it for you).
- Let people know how many items exist in Partners and explain how they are shared across the state and how this increases exponentially the number of items available to each and every person.
- Emphasize the positive.
- Create a display of Partner items that have floated to your library.

NOMINATIONS

In May, Trista Smith becomes chair of Partners. Please let Kingstad know if you would like to nominate someone for vice-chair/chair-elect.

OTHER

- Bray mentioned that there will be a new branch of the Missoula Public Library in Potomac in the next few months.
- Bray again offered to give extra copies of new books to Partner libraries after they have been on the MPL shelves for one year. Libraries are grateful for this opportunity. MPL cataloging staff will change the owning library in the database before sending the item; receiving library will have to change the barcode.
- Adams wondered if we would meet in April because the meeting is scheduled right before the MLA conference. Kingstad suggested that we postpone until the face-to-face meeting in May. Hesper suggested we choose another date like April 9th because we always seem to fill up an agenda, whenever we schedule a meeting. Crowley suggested that we reserve April 9th at noon in case we do want to meet.

NEXT MEETING

April 9, 2013 noon (pending sufficient agenda items) via phone

May 2, 2013 Miles City, in person

Respectfully submitted by Kim Crowley, Flathead County Library System